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ESTIMATES OF FUTURE POPULATION - DALLAS, INDEPENDENCE AND MONMOUTH (POLK COUNTY)

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Portland, Oregon

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COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN PROJECT
For Water Supply and Water Quality Management

ESTIMATES OF FUTURE POPULATION
DALLAS, INDEPENDENCE AND MONMOUTH (POLK COUNTY)

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This working paper contains preliminary data and information primarily intended for internal use by the Columbia River Basin Project staff and cooperating agencies. The material presented in this paper has not been fully evaluated and should not be considered as final.

ESTIMATES OF FUTURE POPULATION
DALLAS, INDEPENDENCE AND MONMOUTH (POLK COUNTY)

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ESTIMATES OF FUTURE POPULATION
DALLAS, INDEPENDENCE AND MONMOUTH (POLK COUNTY)

I. Introduction

Estimates of future population of cities are subject to a wider margin of error than those for areas such as counties or river basins because of the additional variable of possible annexations to the cities.

In the case of the three cities discussed in this report, no attempt has been made to separate the portion of their past growth due to annexations from the portion due to development within previous boundaries. It would appear that there are some limited possibilities for small annexations around each of these three cities in the future. It is assumed, in the following projections, that future growth will represent about the same mixture as it has in the past of (1) annexatio and (2) more intensive development of the older area.

II. Past Growth

Table 1 shows the history of population growth from 1920-60 in the three cities that are the subjects of the report and the comparable growth in the rest of Polk County. Table 2 shows this same growth in terms of a percentage rate, compounded annually.

By far the most rapid growth in Polk County has occurred in West Salem. This was part of the national trend toward urbanization, accentuated by the growth of State government employment in Salem. Monmouth has also had above average growth, a result of growing expenditures on education and teacher training--the Oregon College of Education is the principal industry in Monmouth. Dallas, the county seat, grew at the same rate as Polk County as a whole during the period 1920-60. Independence has grown less rapidly than the county as a whole, and actually declined during the decade 1950-60

Table 1
GROWTH OF POPULATION, 1920-60
PRINCIPAL CITIES OF POLK COUNTY

Area	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960
Dallas	2,701	2,975	3,579	4,793	5,072
Independence	1,143	1,248	1,372	1,987	1,930
Monmouth	582	906	965	1,956	2,229
West Salem	208	974	2,225	3,053	3,897
Rest of County ...	9,547	10,755	11,848	14,528	13,395
Total County	14,181	16,858	19,989	26,317	26,523

Table 2
RATE OF GROWTH OF POPULATION, 1920-60
PRINCIPAL CITIES OF POLK COUNTY
ANNUAL RATE, COMPOUNDED ANNUALLY, PERCENT

Area	1920-30	1930-40	1940-50	1950-60	(40 years' 1920-60
Dallas	1.0	1.9	2.9	0.6	1.6
Independence	0.9	0.9	3.7	-0.3(d)	1.3
Monmouth	1.5	0.6	7.3	1.3	3.4
West Salem	16.7	8.6	3.2	2.5	7.6
Rest of County ...	1.2	1.0	2.0	-0.8(d)	0.9
Total County	1.7	1.7	2.8	0.1	1.6

(d) - Decrease

Table 2 shows that recent growth in Polk County has been sharply irregular. The decade 1940-50 saw rapid growth in all cities and parts of the county, as agricultural and lumber production increased with the war effort and in-migration to Oregon. During 1950-60, however, total population in the county remained almost stationary. A decline in rural population and in the population of Independence was just offset by increases in urban population, particularly in Salem and Monmouth.

Polk County is part of an area defined, for purposes of the Columbia River Basin Project, as the Mid-Willamette Basin. Table 3 shows that Polk County's growth lagged behind that of most of the counties in this sub-basin during 1950-60.

Table 3
POPULATION GROWTH IN COUNTIES IN THE MID-WILLAMETTE BASIN, 1950-60
ANNUAL RATE, COMPOUNDED ANNUALLY, PER CENT

County	Annual Rate, %
Benton	2.2
Linn	0.8
Marion	1.8
Polk	0.1
Yamhill	-0.3 (d)
Total Mid-Willamette Basin	1.2

(d) - Decrease

III. Present Economic Base

The difference in growth rates among the various counties shown in Table 3 can be explained by their respective economic bases. A signific

part of the economy of Benton County is associated with Oregon State University, which has had a rapid growth. Marion County's growth has received impetus from employment in State government at Salem. Linn County's growth has been largely due to its relatively diversified economy centered at Albany, where metal research and manufacturing is located. Polk and Yamhill Counties, on the other hand, are dependen almost entirely on agriculture and two types of manufacturing: lumber-wood products and food processing. In Polk County, as of April, 1960, food processing and lumber-wood represented about 80 percent of all manufacturing employment in the county. The only other element in the county's basic economy is the Oregon College of Education at Monmouth, employing about 300 persons.

The economy base of the three cities which are the subjects of this study can be seen more specifically by listing their principal manufacturing firms as shown in Table 4. The table emphasizes their great dependence upon agriculture, food processing and lumber-wood products manufacturing.

Table 4
PRINCIPAL MANUFACTURING FIRMS IN DALLAS, INDEPENDENCE AND MONMOUTH, 196

City	All Manufacturing Firms Employing More Than Ten Persons	Number of Employees
Dallas	DeGraff Church Furniture Company	15
	Frieson Core Company (wooden spools)	11
	Gerlinger Carrier (lumber handling equip.).	252
	LaCreole Lumber Company	17
	Tracy Co. (fruit and vegetable canning) ...	30 to 13
	Willamette Valley Lumber Company	400
Independence ..	Holt Equipment Co. (farm and lumber equip).	85
	Interstate Shingle Company	25
	Mountain Fir Lumber Company.....	61
	Rein Lumber Company	16
Monmouth	None (Monmouth's economic base is almost entirely dependent on the Oregon College of Education).	

Source: Oregon State Department of Planning and Development, 1961 Directory of Oregon Manufacturers.

The only other distinctive element in the economic base of any of these cities is the fact that county government is located at Dallas. Each of the cities, of course, derives some support from providing trade and service facilities for the surrounding rural area.

IV. Future Growth

An initial appraisal of the outlook for growth in the five counties in the Mid-Willamette Basin[1/] during 1960-80 is that the rate of increase will be considerably above that of the 1950-60 decade (1.2 percent per year), but less than that of the 1940-50 decade (3.7 percent per year). However, most of this growth is expected to be associated with Salem, Albany, and Corvallis. Polk County is likely to continue to grow at a much slower rate than the Mid-Willamette Basin as a whole. Within Polk County, it appears likely that most of the growth will be in the portion in or near Salem.

Of the three cities under consideration, only Monmouth has a present economic base which appears to be capable of considerable enlargement. Growth at the Oregon College of Education might parallel growth in State population, for which a preliminary estimate is 2.0 percent per year for the period 1960-80, 1.7 percent per year for the period 1980-2000, and 1.5 percent per year for 2000-2010. While the need for teachers may grow more rapidly than population, Monmouth's share of total teacher training in the State may decline with the growth of Portland State College.

Dallas' population growth might parallel, as it did over the 1920-60 period, that of Polk County, for which a preliminary estimate is 0.8 percent per year for 1960-80, 0.6 percent for 1980-2010. This rate of growth would be very much higher than Polk County's growth from 1950-60, though only about half of its average for the period 1920-60. Such growth in Dallas would probably be built upon expansion of food processing and wood manufacturing.

Growth for Independence is more difficult to foresee because an economic base upon which such growth might be built does not appear to exist at the present time. Its chief asset is its location on the Willamette

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1/ These preliminary evaluations are based on a judgment of the distribution among the State's sub-basins of population forecasts for the State as a whole.

However, above and below it on the Willamette are Albany and Salem, with more attractions for industrial location. For purposes of these projections, it is assumed that Independence might grow at a rate of 0.1 percent per year (the rate for Polk County during 1950-60) during the period 1960-80 and 0.2 percent per year from 1980-2010.

On the basis of these assumptions, the following table shows the future populations of the three cities that would result.

Table 5
PRELIMINARY PROJECTIONS OF POPULATION, 1980 AND 2010
DALLAS, INDEPENDENCE AND MONMOUTH (POLK COUNTY)

Area	1960 Census	1980 Estimate	2010 Estimate
Dallas	5,072	5,900	7,100
Independence	1,930	2,000	2,100
Monmouth	2,229	3,300	5,400